

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, SG

SUBJ: POST RELATIONS WITH LOCAL US BUSINESS COMMUNITY

REF: A. DAKAR A-44

1. LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY CONSISTS OF APPROXIMATELY 30 FIRMS: INVESTMENTS IN WHICH EQUITY IS WHOLLY OR PARTIALLY U.S., SERVICE FIRMS, AND SALES OFFICES OF U.S. MULTINATIONALS WHO SUPPLY LOCAL MARKET FROM EITHER U.S. OR EUROPEAN PLANTS. THERE ARE 7 RESIDENT AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN, INCLUDING ONE WHO HEADS COMPANY WITH NO U.S. AFFILIATION. INTERESTS OF FIRMS ARE MORE OFTEN DIVERGENT THAN CONVERGENT.

2. POST RELATIONS WITH LOCAL AMERICAN FIRMS ARE GOOD, SEVERAL TIMES DURING PAST YEAR WE HAVE RESPONDED TO REQUESTS FROM INDIVIDUAL FIRMS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE IN AREAS OF INTEREST TO THEM. EMBASSADOR MAKES INFORMAL CALLS ON REPRESENTATIVES FROM TIME TO TIME AND LUNCHEONS ARE ORGANIZED OCCASIONALLY.

3. SENEGALESE-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO AN EXCLUSIVELY AMERICAN CHAMBER. HOWEVER, SEVERAL EFFORTS TO SET UP SUCH AN ORGANIZATION VIA AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

4. POST AGREES THAT SENEGALESE-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COULD BE USEFUL AND WOULD CERTAINLY BE WILLING TO ASSIST AND ENCOURAGE ESTABLISHMENT SUCH ORGANIZATION.

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HOWEVER, BELIEVE THAT EITHER LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS

COMMUNITY OR INTERESTED SENEGALESE SHOULD TAKE INITIATIVE
IF THEY FEEL SUCH AN ORGANIZATION IS NEEDED.
AGGREY

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